

Remarks

I. Restriction and Election Requirement

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following groups:

Group I: Claims 1-14, drawn to methods of determining signature sequences, classified in class 435, subclass 6; and

Group II: Claims 15-16, drawn to kits of nucleic acids, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.

In response, Applicants elect to begin prosecution with examination of claim **Group I**, claims 1-14, without traverse. Non-elected claims 15-16 are withdrawn from consideration.

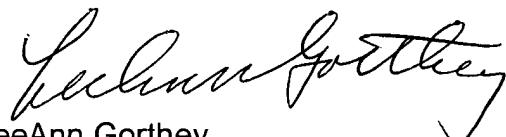
Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims of Group II.

II. Amendments

Non-elected claims 15-16 are withdrawn from consideration.

No new matter is added by way of these amendments.

Respectfully submitted,


LeeAnn Gorthey
Registration No. 37,337

Date: Feb. 27, 2006

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 22918

Ph: 650 838-4403